



# Department of Homeland Security Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 03 February 2004

Current Nationwide  
Threat Level is



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[www.whitehouse.gov/homeland](http://www.whitehouse.gov/homeland)

## Daily Overview

- Reuters reports two more people have died after contracting bird flu, bringing to 12 the number of deaths across Asia. (See item [21](#))
- Reuters reports a Louisiana sheriff whose jurisdiction includes refineries processing 308,000 barrels of oil per day has announced plans to increase security by putting cameras on main roads to photograph drivers and license plates. (See item [24](#))
- Microsoft has released "Security Bulletin MS04-004: Cumulative Security Update for Internet Explorer (Critical)," and a patch is available on the Microsoft Website. (See item [27](#))

### DHS/IAIP Update *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)

Federal and State: [Government](#); [Emergency Services](#)

IT and Cyber: [Information and Telecommunications](#); [Internet Alert Dashboard](#)

Other: [General](#); [DHS/IAIP Web Information](#)

## Energy Sector

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: Elevated, Cyber: Elevated**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://esisac.com>]

1. *February 02, Philadelphia Business Journal* — Pennsylvania receives electrical grid upgrades. Pennsylvania's electrical-transmission grid has been the beneficiary of \$117.2 million in upgrades the past three years and stands to benefit from \$148.1 million in improvements under development, the authority that runs the grid said Monday. Valley Forge, PA-based PJM Interconnection said the improvements are part of its regional transmission expansion plan, which was approved in August 2000. Of the amount invested in Pennsylvania so far, \$55.3 million was for direct improvements to the grid. Another \$61.9

million was for upgrades necessary to connect 5,012 megawatts of new generating capacity to the grid.

Source: <http://philadelphia.bizjournals.com/philadelphia/stories/2004/02/02/daily7.html>

2. *February 02, AFX News Ltd.* — **Agreement reached on Lake Charles LNG terminal. BG Group PLC and Southern Union Co. reached agreement on the Phase II expansion of the North America's largest liquefied natural gas (LNG) import terminal, Louisiana-based Lake Charles Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) facility.** Phase I of the expansion, announced in October 2001, is occurring and is expected to increase average daily terminal send-out from 630 million cubic feet a day to 1.2 billion cubic feet (bcf) a day and terminal storage capacity from 6.3 bcf to 9 bcf. **Phase II will result in an incremental increase in average daily terminal send-out of 50 pct to 1.8 bcf a day.** Phase I is set to be completed and in service by January 1, 2006, with Phase II following in mid 2006. The Phase II expansion and the pipeline construction plans require Federal Energy Regulatory Commission approval. The arrangement with Southern Union removes the need for the proposed Lake Charles Express pipeline extension, BG said.

Source: [http://www.troyrecord.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=10903535&BRD=1170&PAG=740&dept\\_id=226967&rfti=6](http://www.troyrecord.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=10903535&BRD=1170&PAG=740&dept_id=226967&rfti=6)

3. *February 02, Reuters* — **NRC begins FirstEnergy nuclear plant inspection. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on Monday began a week-long inspection of FirstEnergy Corp.'s Davis-Besse nuclear plant in Ohio, a key test before the utility can restart the station after a two-year closure, the agency said.** The NRC also scheduled a February 12 meeting with FirstEnergy to go over preliminary results of this week's "restart readiness assessment team inspection" and a separate inspection of the utility's "safety culture" that began January 12. **NRC spokesperson Jan Strasma said the agency's Davis-Besse oversight panel will discuss the possible restart of the plant at the February 12 meeting, but will not make a decision then.** The 925 megawatt Davis-Besse plant, near Oak Harbor, OH, was forced to close in February 2002 when it was discovered that leaking boric acid had chewed holes nearly all the way through the reactor vessel's carbon steel lid, a serious safety violation.

Source: [http://biz.yahoo.com/rc/040202/utilities\\_firstenergy\\_nrc\\_1.html](http://biz.yahoo.com/rc/040202/utilities_firstenergy_nrc_1.html)

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## **Chemical Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

4. *February 02, Govexec.com* — **Pentagon sets plan to convert and outsource military jobs. The Department of Defense has embarked on a plan to eliminate as many as 300,000 military support jobs from its ranks. The proposed \$401 billion fiscal 2005 Defense budget released Monday calls for the "conversion" of 10,700 military positions. Those support jobs, such as accounting positions, would be turned over to civilian federal employees,**

**contracted out, or simply eliminated.** The budget includes \$572 million to cover the costs of converting or eliminating the positions. Defense budget officials said 10,000 positions are already slated for conversion in fiscal 2004, and a similar number would be converted annually for the next several years. Unlike outsourcing civilian jobs in Defense, the military does not have to hold job competitions under Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76 before deciding to outsource uniformed jobs to the private sector.

Source: <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0204/020204g1.htm>

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Transportation Sector**

5. *February 02, Associated Press* — **Government says security threat over, no more flight cancellations. The specific terrorist threats that led to the cancellation of seven flights have passed and there are no plans to ground any more flights, a government official said Monday, February 2.** Six international flights from the United Kingdom and France and Continental Airlines Flight 1519 from Washington to Houston, site of the Super Bowl, were grounded Sunday and Monday after security concerns were raised by the Homeland Security Department. Homeland Security Department spokesman Brian Roehrkasse said there was "specific and credible intelligence information suggesting that al Qaeda would attack these flights on those dates." The Continental flight was the first domestic flight to be canceled. Roehrkasse declined to provide details about the nature of the threat but said the federal agency and Continental "worked closely on the matter." The flight was scheduled to take off from Dulles International Airport outside Washington at 5:45 p.m. EST and arrive at Bush Intercontinental Airport at 8:10 p.m. CST.

Source: [http://www.wusatv9.com/news/news\\_article.aspx?storyid=26585](http://www.wusatv9.com/news/news_article.aspx?storyid=26585)

6. *February 02, Click2Houston* — **Plane has emergency landing in Texas. Several passengers on board a Continental Airlines jet were overcome by a foul odor, forcing the plane to return to Bush Intercontinental Airport Friday afternoon, January 30, News2Houston reported.** Flight 176 took off for Philadelphia around 1:40 p.m. During the flight, passengers smelled a strong odor in the cabin and the plane returned to Houston. It safely landed around 3:30 p.m. Houston firefighters and emergency workers met the plane at the terminal. All of the 52 passengers and crew were evaluated at the scene. A Continental Airlines representative said no one was transported to a hospital. Officials are still searching for the cause of the odor.

Source: [http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?section\\_Id=17&id=25447](http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?section_Id=17&id=25447)

7. *February 02, The Trucker* — **New economic indicator to reflect transportation. Department of Transportation (DOT) Secretary Norman Y. Mineta announced on January 29 a new economic indicator which is intended to measure the performance of the economy as reflected in the movement of freight and passengers.** After ringing the opening bell of the

New York Stock Exchange, **Mineta announced the Transportation Services Index (TSI) which will have numbers released beginning in March.** TSI will use monthly data on freight movement and passenger travel in the for-hire transportation sector. Analysts from DOT's Bureau of Transportation Statistics will weight and seasonally adjust the data to allow monthly and year-to-year comparisons. Freight measures will include: for-hire trucking and parcel services; freight railroad services; inland waterway traffic; pipeline movements; and air freight. **DOT stated that the transportation sector accounts for 11 percent of the U.S. Gross Domestic Product and employs more than 11 million Americans.** There are 39 transportation companies listed on the New York Stock exchange alone that together represent a current market value of more than \$181 billion. TSI will provide the first ever single measure of the transportation sector's impact on the economy, Mineta said.

Source: [http://www.thetrucker.com/stories/02\\_04/0202\\_economic\\_index.html](http://www.thetrucker.com/stories/02_04/0202_economic_index.html)

8. *February 02, 1010 WINS (Trenton, NJ)* — **Many NJ bridges in poor condition. Thirteen percent of the state's bridges are in poor condition and should be repaired soon, but the work could cost nearly \$2 billion. The 10 bridges most of which were built in the 1920s and 1930s are still in use, even though all have been classified as structurally deficient and functionally obsolete,** Millennium Radio News reported Monday. However, none of the spans is in danger of imminent collapse. Experts who reviewed the list said it would cost about \$1.9 billion to make the repairs needed on the 10 "high priority," while another \$5 billion would be needed to correct problems on other bridges throughout New Jersey.

Source: [http://1010wins.com/topstories/winstopstories\\_story\\_03307411\\_5.html](http://1010wins.com/topstories/winstopstories_story_03307411_5.html)

9. *February 02, Toronto Star (Canada)* — **Never the trains shall meet. Since the beginning of December, glitches in field components of Canadian National's computer-driven rail traffic control system have shut it down on seven occasions and stopped trains dead in their tracks west of Toronto, three times during the commuter rush hours.** Snow and ice have jammed track switches on both the CN and Canadian Pacific main lines to the east, north and west of the city, leading to delays and even cancellations of the GO trains that shuttle thousands of commuters to and from their downtown jobs. **Six serious freight train derailments -- the worst of which claimed two lives -- occurred in Ontario last month despite the multi-million-dollar investments made by CN and the CPR in high-tech devices such as hot wheel, hot bearing and dragging-equipment detectors.** Yet one low-tech element of the GTA rail system has not failed: the 76-year-old electro-mechanical signalling system operating most of the track network at Toronto Union Station. **Signals are the heart of rail operations. It is the red, green and yellow lights that tell crews whether it's go, or no go.** "We've had our share of problems," says Derrick Dewar, supervisor of operations and safety for the Toronto Terminals Railway (TTR), which operates the downtown rail plant on behalf of owner GO Transit, referring to January delays.

Source: [http://www.thestar.com/NASApp/cs/ContentServer?pagename=thesar/Layout/Article\\_Type1&c=Article&cid=1075677008556&call\\_pa\\_geid=968332188492](http://www.thestar.com/NASApp/cs/ContentServer?pagename=thesar/Layout/Article_Type1&c=Article&cid=1075677008556&call_pa_geid=968332188492)

10. *February 02, Porterville Recorder (Porterville, CA)* — **Man breaches Fresno airport security.** A man drove right through a security gate at Fresno Yosemite International airport and roamed freely in a secure area before being arrested, airport officials said. **George Walker Gregory Jr. claimed he was just looking for the baggage claim area when he rammed his car through a chain link gate southeast of the main terminal building at 3:35 a.m.** A

federal Transportation Safety Administration official saw Walker and reported him to airport police. The police report said Walker cooperated once he was arrested, and acknowledged he drove through the gate "on purpose." Walker was given a citation for trespassing and vandalism and was then released, since it was determined he posed no threat to airport security and airline service was not interrupted, said Severo Esquivel, the interim airport director.

Source: <http://myopr.com/articles/2004/02/02/news/briefs/brief6.txt>

11. *February 02, CNN* — **Ridge: 'Very specific' fears grounded planes. Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge said Monday, February 2, that "very specific information" about possible terrorist attacks led to the cancellation of 11 airline flights Saturday, Sunday and Monday — but he said just how terrorists might have been planning to attack remains unclear.** "We got very specific information regarding when and what flights. It didn't quite have the specificity with regard to the nature of the attack, but there was certainly enough credibility associated with the when and the where, the date and the flight" to cancel the flights, Ridge said at a news conference. The secretary also warned that more cancellations are possible as the ability to gather information about potential attacks improves. British Airways, Air France and Continental Airlines canceled 10 international flights from Saturday to Monday because of security concerns. Continental also canceled a domestic flight from Washington to Houston, Texas, on Sunday. Because the nature of the possible attacks was not specific, **intelligence officials looked into the possibility that airplanes could be used as suicide bombs or to disperse chemical or biological weapons, officials said. They also considered the possibility that terrorists could use planes to transport a radiological weapon — a so-called "dirty bomb" designed to disperse radioactive material with conventional explosives.**

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2004/US/02/02/flight.cancellations/index.html>

12. *January 09, General Accounting Office* — **GAO-04-240: Commuter Rail: Information and Guidance Could Help Facilitate Commuter and Rail Access Negotiations (Report).**

Because the cost of building new infrastructure can be cost prohibitive, commuter rail agencies typically seek to use existing infrastructure—which is primarily owned by private freight railroads. Consequently, commuter rail agencies must negotiate to purchase, lease, or pay to access the existing infrastructure from freight railroads. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Federal Railroad Administration, and Surface Transportation Board (STB) have responsibility for different aspects of rail transportation. For example, FTA helps fund the planning and development of eligible commuter rail projects. However, none of the three agencies play a role in commuter rail access negotiations. Therefore, they have not provided any guidance or information to commuter rail agencies or freight railroads to facilitate and inform negotiations. **GAO recommends that the Department of Transportation (DOT) and STB determine whether it would be appropriate for them to provide guidance and information, such as best practices and information on the applicability of the federal liability cap, to commuter rail agencies and freight railroads.** DOT and STB generally agreed with the report's findings, conclusions, and recommendation. Highlights:

<http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d04240high.pdf>

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-04-240>

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## Postal and Shipping Sector

13. *February 03, Associated Press* — **Senate powder tests positive for ricin. Preliminary tests of a white powder discovered in a Senate office building Monday were positive for the potentially deadly poison ricin, the U.S. Capitol police chief said.** Two out of three tests indicate ricin, Chief Terrance Gainer said at a late-evening news conference. The third test came out negative, and a fourth, more definitive test was under way, with results expected Tuesday. Sixteen people who were on the floor where an envelope containing the white powder was discovered were being decontaminated and allowed to go home, Gainer said. Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-TN, also at the news conference, said no symptoms were reported. "Everybody's fine" and there is "no cause for alarm," he said. **The envelope was discovered at about 3 p.m. in a mail room on the fourth floor of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, Gainer said.** A government official said earlier that tests were being conducted at Fort Detrick in Maryland, with more definitive results expected by Tuesday. Authorities do not know if the substance was found on letter or package, the chief said.

Source: [http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&u=/ap/20040203/ap\\_on\\_re\\_us/capitol\\_suspicious\\_powder&cid=519&ncid=716](http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&u=/ap/20040203/ap_on_re_us/capitol_suspicious_powder&cid=519&ncid=716)

14. *February 01, Associated Press* — **Testing for anthrax at mail facility to wrap up soon. The U.S. Postal Service plans to finish collecting test samples soon to determine whether fumigation of an anthrax-contaminated building in Trenton, NJ, three months ago was successful.** The samples then will be turned over to a special committee that will have 30 days to decide whether to recommend reopening the building, which has been closed since October 2001 when it handled anthrax-laced letters. Officials have said that October's fumigation with chlorine dioxide gas went as planned. Thousands of pore strips were placed throughout the building to determine whether the gas killed the anthrax. The final decision on whether to reopen the building will be made by the U.S. Postal Service. If the building is considered safe, crews will begin secondary cleaning and renovations, including restoration of the facility's mail-processing equipment.

Source: <http://www.philly.com/mld/inquirer/news/local/7848231.htm>

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## Agriculture Sector

15. *February 02, Missouri Ag Connection* — **Plant disease linked to sixteen Missouri locations.** State and federal agriculture officials are working with 16 Missouri nurseries, greenhouses, and retail outlets to destroy plants suspected of carrying the disease *Ralstonia solanacearum*. **The disease is a concern because it not only destroys plants but because it can spread via soil, water, and equipment to crops such as potatoes, tomatoes, and peppers.** Also known as bacterial or Southern wilt, *Ralstonia solanacearum* poses no harm to humans or animals. In plants, it causes leaves to wilt or yellow. **The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has determined that the bacterium arrived in the U.S. via contaminated geraniums imported from a wholesaler in Guatemala.** The plants were then distributed to 41 states, said Mike Brown, state entomologist with the Missouri Department of Agriculture. A similar outbreak of *Ralstonia solanacearum* occurred in the U.S. last spring, causing the USDA to halt the sale of

plants at 921 greenhouses in 47 states. That surveillance resulted in the destruction of about two million plants at 127 facilities.

Source: <http://www.missouriagconnection.com/story-state.cfm?Id=63&yr=2004>

16. *February 02, News-Gazette (Illinois)* — **New livestock safeguard added. In order to protect the state from a possible disease outbreak, the Illinois Department of Agriculture is now requiring that all livestock entering the state be accompanied by a permit.** The permit will include contact information on where livestock are being transported from and where they are going. In the event of a disease outbreak, such as mad cow disease, the permits "will help in our ability to identify which animals may have been exposed to a disease, which ones we will need to quarantine, and ultimately help prevent the spread of any foreign disease," said Jeff Squibb, Illinois Agriculture Department spokesman. Illinois currently requires all livestock to be accompanied by a health certificate that states the animal has no visible signs of contagious, infectious, or communicable disease. That certificate will still be required.

Source: <http://www.news-gazette.com/story.cfm?Number=15375>

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## **Food Sector**

17. *February 02, Reuters* — **Administration requests millions for food safety.** "The United States must be vigilant in protecting the safety of the nation's food system from terrorist attacks," the White House said in budget documents. It said expertise in preventing outbreaks of animal and plant disease would be "turned toward thwarting deliberate acts of contamination and introduction of disease." The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will work with the Department of Health and Human Services to develop new ways to detect and prevent contamination of food as well as increased monitoring of the food supply. They also will establish a network of laboratories equipped to analyze rapidly agricultural diseases and potentially contaminated food. **"The budget provides \$381 million, a \$302 million increase, the largest increase ever, for USDA to enhance efforts to quickly respond to food contamination or animal and plant diseases and infestations,"** budget documents said.

Source: [http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&u=/nm/20040202/p1\\_nm/budget\\_madcow\\_dc\\_1](http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&u=/nm/20040202/p1_nm/budget_madcow_dc_1)

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## **Water Sector**

18. *February 02, Associated Press* — **Chemical leak in Canada contaminated water supply on both sides of the border. Authorities gave the go-ahead for residents to resume drinking tap water after tests determined a leak of up to 39,000 gallons of toxic chemicals into the St. Clair River had not contaminated the water supply.** The chemicals leaked Sunday morning, in Canada, near Sarnia, Ontario, forcing the closure of water plants serving tens of thousands of people. The advisory was lifted early Monday, environmental officials said. **Patricia Spitzley, a spokesperson for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, said more testing may be performed in downriver communities Monday, but "we don't**

**anticipate more water advisories for Michigan."** The leak was reported at an Imperial Oil plant south of Sarnia. It was later contained. The Ontario Ministry of Environment and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality warned communities near the spill to close off water intakes while the water is tested. Water from the St. Clair River flows into Lake St. Clair and then into the Detroit River and on into Lake Erie. Imperial Oil described the chemicals as low-toxicity solvents used to make lubrication oils.

Source: [http://abcnews.go.com/wire/US/ap20040202\\_163.html](http://abcnews.go.com/wire/US/ap20040202_163.html)

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## **Public Health Sector**

19. *February 02, PR Newswire* — **New bioterrorism planning tool.** In the event of a bioterrorism attack, not all lives will be saved. The capacity of hospitals to take and treat victims may be limited, and immediate decisions about quarantine and deployment of resources would be necessary. The University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) has developed a roadmap that will make this decision making process easier and allow health officials to preplan crisis decision-making. **Known as the Pittsburgh Matrix, this emergency response application has the potential to be an effective method for quantifying survivorship, medical costs for response, and options for treatment of specific bioterror agents,** according to UPMC experts who developed the system. The Pittsburgh Matrix works by identifying various bioterrorism scenarios and assessing them against hospital patient volume and timeline of detection. **Pittsburgh Matrix methodology enables medical decision makers to assess a variety of scenarios in advance in order to deploy resources to save the most lives, and is designed to be flexible in order to fit individual hospital facilities.** The Matrix might suggest one hospital to stockpile medications rather than invest in hospital surveillance detection systems, but offer different recommendations to another. In the Pittsburgh Matrix, bioterror agents are also numerically rated to characterize their severity.

Source: [http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/040202/clm006\\_1.html](http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/040202/clm006_1.html)

20. *February 02, Medical News Today* — **Helping eczema sufferers tolerate smallpox vaccine.** **The lack of a certain peptide in the skin of people with atopic dermatitis, the most common form of eczema, may explain why they are at high risk of adverse reactions to the smallpox vaccine, scientists report.** The finding may lead to new treatments to allow those with the skin condition to be vaccinated against smallpox without breaking out in a potentially deadly rash. "Understanding the role of natural human antibiotics in diseases such as atopic dermatitis gives us a window into the possible reasons behind susceptibility to infections, and may help us better predict and control reactions to the smallpox vaccine or similar agents," said coinvestigator Richard L. Gallo, a dermatologist at the Veterans Affairs (VA) San Diego Health Care System. In experiments in test tubes and mice, the researchers found that a germ-killing peptide called LL-37, largely absent from the skin of those with atopic dermatitis, selectively kills vaccinia. **The researchers believe a product with LL-37 might enable thousands of civilians or military personnel with atopic dermatitis to be vaccinated in the event of a bioterrorist attack with smallpox.**

Source: <http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/index.php?newsid=5631>

21.



*February 02, Reuters* — **Toll hits 12 as bird flu kills two more across Asia.** Two more people have died after contracting bird flu, bringing to 12 the number of deaths across Asia. The deaths of the two, a 58-year-old woman in Thailand and an 18-year-old man in Vietnam, were disclosed Monday. The toll rose a day after the World Health Organization said that two sisters who died in Vietnam last month had probably caught the virus from their brother, in what would be the first cases of human-to-human infection. Vietnamese hospital officials in Ho Chi Minh City said the teenage boy who died on Monday had caught the virus after eating meat from a chicken with avian influenza. The death announced Monday in Thailand occurred earlier, but health officials did not immediately disclose the date. **Bird flu has struck poultry in at least 10 Asian countries, but infections in people have been reported only in Thailand and Vietnam.** The World Health Organization continued investigating the deaths of the two Vietnamese sisters who may have caught the disease through contact with their brother. But the WHO said there was no evidence yet of a new strain that can easily be passed among people. Source: <http://www.iht.com/articles/127654.htm>

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## **Government Sector**

22. *February 02, Department of Homeland Security* — **Department of Homeland Security announces FY 2005 budget in brief.** The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) budget includes new resources for FY 2005 of \$40.2 billion. This is an increase of 10 percent above the comparable FY 2004 resource level. **The budget substantially increases funding for DHS from 2003 — the year that the Department was created — and continues the dramatic growth for agencies that are now a part of DHS.** The budget as a whole clearly demonstrates the continuing priority placed on Homeland Security in requesting new government-wide discretionary resources for FY 2005 of \$30 billion. This is an increase of 9.7 percent above the comparable FY 2004 resource level. The budget for the Department of Homeland Security builds upon the significant investments to date that improve safeguards against terrorism, while also sustaining the many important departmental activities not directly related to our fight against terrorism. Source: [http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/interapp/press\\_release/press\\_re lease\\_0341.xml](http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/interapp/press_release/press_re lease_0341.xml)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

23. *February 02, Government Technology* — **Florida's statewide law enforcement radio system completed.** In Tallahassee, the State Technology Office, state law enforcement officials and representatives from M/A-COM recently announced the cutover to the **Statewide Law Enforcement Radio System (SLERS), which is using 800 MHz radio technology to provide state law enforcement agencies with a single common radio network. The network covers 35,615 square miles, from Nassau County to Collier County.** "We have created an incredible public/private partnership, with a common goal of improving officer and public safety through a reliable and cost-efficient shared communications system," said state Chief Information Officer Kim Bahrami. "For the first time, thousands of state law enforcement

officers in 17 counties are finally getting the chance to communicate instantaneously in the field," said Col. Graham Fountain, vice-chairman of the SLERS taskforce and director of the Office of Motor Carrier Compliance. It is estimated the entire project covering all counties in the state will be completed in 2005. Florida is expected to save approximately \$622 million over 20 years. Phase V, covering 16 additional counties, is slated to become operational in spring 2004. Work will then begin on replacing the old system in segments of Central and South Florida.

Source: <http://www.govtech.net/news/news.php?id=86867>

24. *January 30, Reuters* — **Sheriff plans cameras for Louisiana refining area. A Louisiana sheriff whose jurisdiction includes refineries processing 308,000 barrels of oil per day on the eastern edge of New Orleans announced plans this week to increase security in the area by putting cameras on main roads to photograph drivers and license plates.** Funding for the \$30,000 high-tech cameras, like those that monitor high-traffic intersections in major cities, is expected to come from Department of Homeland Security grants, said Capt. Mike Sanders, public information officer for the St. Bernard Parish Sheriff's Office. In June, fires on the same night at the 183,000 barrel per day (bpd) Exxon Mobil refinery in Chalmette and the 125,000 bpd Murphy Oil plant in Meraux, both in St. Bernard parish, triggered an FBI investigation. Most refineries have extensive video monitoring, not only of people, but of the machinery, said Marti Snyder, spokesperson for BP Plc.'s 447,000 bpd refinery in Texas City, Texas. "I would say for our industry, it's an integral part of our security system," Snyder said. Source: <http://www.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=topNews&storyID=4253569>

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## **Information and Telecommunications Sector**

25. *February 02, Government Computer News* — **Bush requests increase for IT in 2005. The Bush administration Monday asked Congress for \$59.7 billion for IT hardware, software, and services in its fiscal 2005 budget request. The \$600 million increase over this year's request of \$59.1 billion is a one percent increase.** Last year, the Bush administration asked for more than a 12 percent increase in IT spending over 2003. The request includes 621 major projects worth about \$22 billion that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) put on a watch list. That list identifies projects that lack at least two of three criteria: adequate security, performance measures, or earned value management. **The budget says agencies should expect OMB to continue to push for IT security.** It outlined three goals for the upcoming year: All agencies by December must create a central remediation process to ensure that program- and system-level security weaknesses are corrected. Each agency inspector general must verify the remediation process. Also by December, IGs or a private third-party organization must certify and accredit as secure at least 80 percent of all federal systems. Finally, agencies by December must integrate security expenditures into each program's lifecycle costs. Source: [http://www.gcn.com/vol1\\_no1/daily-updates/24804-1.html](http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/24804-1.html)

26. *February 02, Associated Press* — **Computer virus brings down SCO Group's Web site. A computer virus that targeted a small Utah software company performed as its perpetrators promised on Sunday, bringing down The SCO Group's website two days before a similar virus was programmed to attack Microsoft Corporation The "Mydoom"**

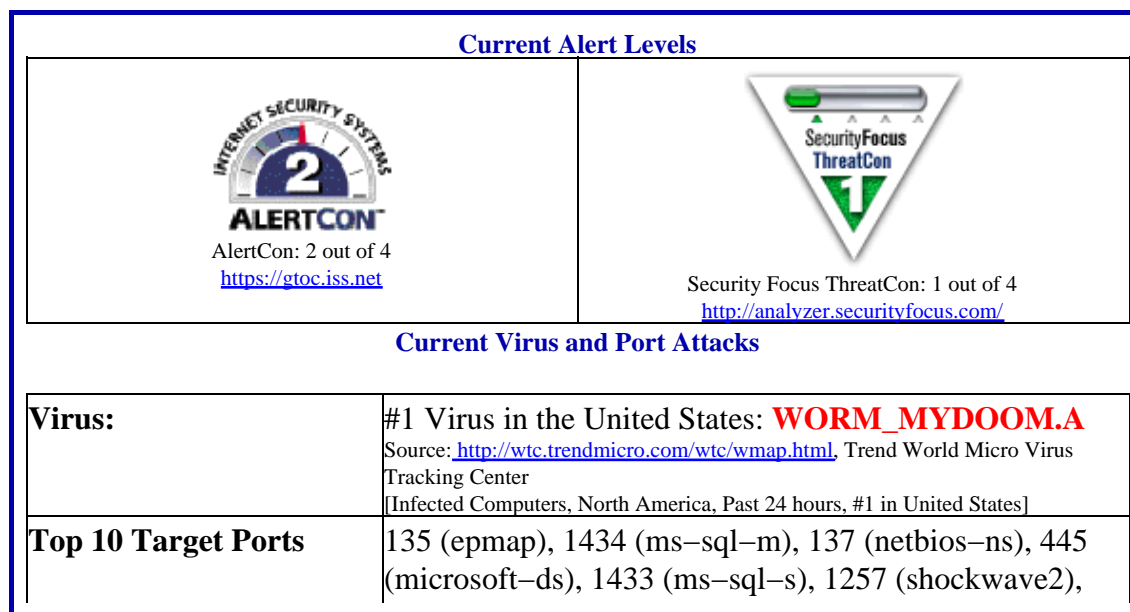
or "Novarg" virus launched the attack Sunday, February 1, with hundreds of thousands of requests, which crippled the site, SCO spokesman Blake Stowell said. The virus was spread last week by e-mail and caused infected computers to launch the electronic attack against SCO, which has been targeted at least twice this year with such attacks because of its threats to sue users of the Linux operating system in an intellectual property dispute. SCO announced a \$250,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of Mydoom's creator on Tuesday, January 27. Internet traffic to SCO's Web site began building late Saturday night, and overwhelmed it just after 12 a.m. EST. The strain that shut down SCO's Web site was the Mydoom.A virus. Another strain, called Mydoom.B, is set to launch an attack Tuesday on Microsoft.

Source: [http://www.journalnet.com/articles/2004/02/02/news/local/new\\_s09.txt](http://www.journalnet.com/articles/2004/02/02/news/local/new_s09.txt)

27. **February 02, Microsoft** — **Microsoft Security Bulletin MS04-004: Cumulative Security Update for Internet Explorer.** This is a cumulative update that includes the functionality of all the previously-released updates for Internet Explorer 5.01, Internet Explorer 5.5, and Internet Explorer 6.0. Additionally, it eliminates three newly-discovered vulnerabilities. **A vulnerability that involves the cross-domain security model of Internet Explorer.** This vulnerability could result in the execution of script in the Local Machine zone. **A vulnerability that involves performing a drag-and-drop operation with function pointers during dynamic HTML (DHTML) events in Internet Explorer.** This vulnerability could allow a file to be saved in a target location on the user's system if the user clicked a link. **A vulnerability that involves the incorrect parsing of URLs that contain special characters.** When combined with a misuse of the basic authentication feature that has "username:password@" at the beginning of a URL, this vulnerability could result in a misrepresentation of the URL in the address bar of an Internet Explorer window. Microsoft has assigned a risk rating of "Critical" to this issue and recommends that system administrators install the patch immediately.

Source: <http://www.microsoft.com/technet/treeview/default.asp?url=/technet/security/bulletin/MS04-004.asp>

### Internet Alert Dashboard



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## General Sector

28. *February 02, Associated Press* — **Five in Italy convicted of al Qaeda ties.** Five North African men were convicted Monday of ties to Osama bin Laden's terrorist network and sentenced to four-to-eight year prison terms. **The defendants were found guilty of links to a cell that sent would-be terrorists to Afghanistan, Tunisia, and Algeria,** the Italian news agency ANSA reported. They were cleared of charges of aiding and abetting clandestine immigration. A charge of trafficking in arms was dropped. **Anti-terrorism investigators have described Italy as an important logistical base for the al Qaeda network, especially for procuring false identity documents and finding recruits for training in bin Laden's camps.** The stiffest sentence, eight years, went to Abdelkader Mahmoud Es Sayed, an Egyptian who allegedly organized the Milan cell. He was tried in absentia, although investigators say he may have died fighting for bin Laden in Afghanistan.

Source: [http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&cid=518&ncid=721&e=6&u=/ap/20040202/ap\\_on\\_re\\_eu/italy\\_terror\\_convictions](http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&cid=518&ncid=721&e=6&u=/ap/20040202/ap_on_re_eu/italy_terror_convictions)

29. *February 02, Reuters* — **Pakistan scientist admits selling nuclear secrets. The father of Pakistan's atomic bomb has confessed to selling nuclear secrets to Iran, Libya, and North Korea but authorities have yet to decide if he will go on trial, officials said Monday.** Top scientist Abdul Qadeer Khan was fired as adviser to the prime minister Saturday and is the main suspect in a two-month investigation into allegations that individuals passed on Pakistan's nuclear weapons secrets to other countries. Intelligence sources said the evidence against Khan was strong enough to formally charge him. **Pakistan launched its investigation more than two months ago after the UN nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency, found evidence pointing to Pakistani involvement in Iran's nuclear program.** Designs used in Libyan and North Korean nuclear programs are also believed to have come from Pakistan. Pakistan's President Pervez Musharraf is expected to address the nation, probably early next week, once the investigation is completed. Khan was a key architect of Pakistan's atomic program from the 1970s up to the first nuclear tests in 1998.

Source: [http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&cid=574&ncid=721&e=2&u=/nm/20040202/wl\\_nm/nuclear\\_pakistan\\_dc](http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&cid=574&ncid=721&e=2&u=/nm/20040202/wl_nm/nuclear_pakistan_dc)

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The Department of Homeland Security's Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection (IAIP) serves as a national critical infrastructure threat assessment, warning, vulnerability entity. The IAIP provides a range of bulletins and advisories of interest to information system security and professionals and those involved in protecting public and private infrastructures. By visiting the IAIP web-site (<http://www.nipic.gov>), one can quickly access any of the following DHS/IAIP products:

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